

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of progressively disclosing to a computer user structured database information for making a decision regarding an event, comprising:
  - alerting the user to the event;
  - receiving a first request for the structured database information relating to the event;
  - providing a first portion of the structured database information relating to the event;
  - receiving a second request for additional structured database information and options relating to the event; and
  - providing a second portion of the structured database information and the options relating to the event, the second portion being larger than the first portion, the options including a mechanism for making the decision.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - receiving a third request for additional structured database information and options relating to the event; and
  - providing a third portion of the structured database information and the options relating to the event, the third portion being larger than the second portion, the options including a mechanism for making the decision.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the alert is provided in a sidebar.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein a notification is provided in place of an alert.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the first portion of the structured database information relating to the event is provided in a contextual menu.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the first portion of the structured database information relating to the event is provided in a flyout.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the second portion of the structured database information and the options relating to the event are provided in a quick activity window.

8. The method of claim 2, wherein the third portion of the structured database information and the options relating to the event is provided in a guided activity window.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising providing unstructured database information in response to the second request.

10. The method of claim 2, further comprising providing unstructured database information in response to the third request.

11. A system for providing progressive disclosure of information to a user comprising:

a memory; and  
a microprocessor coupled to the memory and programmed to:  
alert the user to an event;  
receive a first request for structured database information relating to the event;  
provide a first portion of the structured database information relating to the event;  
receive a second request for additional structured database information and options relating to the event; and  
provide a second portion of the structured database information and the options relating to the event, the second portion being larger than the first portion, the options including a mechanism for making the decision.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the microprocessor is further programmed to:

receiving a third request for additional structured database information and options relating to the event; and

providing a third portion of the structured database information and the options relating to the event, the third portion being larger than the second portion, the options including a mechanism for making the decision.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein the alert is provided in a sidebar.
14. The system of claim 11, wherein a notification is provided in place of an alert.
15. The system of claim 11, wherein the first portion of the structured database information relating to the event is provided in a contextual menu.
16. The system of claim 11, wherein the first portion of the structured database information relating to the event is provided in a flyout.
17. The system of claim 11, wherein the second portion of the structured database information and the options relating to the event are provided in a quick activity window.
18. The system of claim 12, wherein the third portion of the structured database information and the options relating to the event is provided in a guided activity window.
19. The system of claim 11, wherein the microprocessor is further programmed to provide unstructured database information in response to the second request.
20. The system of claim 12, wherein the microprocessor is further programmed to provide unstructured database information in response to the third request.